

OFAH File 420S September 9, 2024

Diane McGrath Liaison, Ontario Wildlife Foundation Box 1598 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7S4

Dear Mrs. McGrath:

Subject: Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program Final Report to OWF for 2023 grant

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and our 100,000 members, subscribers, and supporters, and 700 member clubs, I am pleased to provide the final report on our most recent Ontario Wildlife Foundation grant.

The Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program (LOASRP) used its 2023 Ontario Wildlife Foundation funding to secure the fish production portion of the program, travel to production and classroom hatchery fish stocking events. Funding for the fish production costs ensured that eggs for classroom hatcheries and fish for tributary stocking were available. In the spring, 97,607 yearlings and 139,214 fry were stocked into the Lake Ontario watershed. Volunteer stocking events engaged 21 individual volunteers. Participants consisted of seasoned anglers who support the restoration of Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon, new anglers who are very interested in the program, and avid naturalists interested in native species restoration.

The 2024 classroom hatchery program was very successful. Eggs and an introductory presentation were delivered to 83 classroom hatchery units in January. Staff then delivered three mid-program presentations to the classes. In May and June, staff facilitated fish releases with the respective classes, releasing 6958 Atlantic Salmon fry into 7 tributaries of Lake Ontario. The program engaged over 3000 students in biology, ecology, and the importance of good environmental stewardship for our current and future natural resources.

Please let me know if you require further information or have questions about the OWF's important contribution to the Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program's classroom hatcheries and fish stocking activities.

Yours in Conservation,

Ben Teskey

OFAH Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program Coordinator

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